The Chicago Tribune.

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WASHINGTON.

The President Suppresses a Big Land Grab.

Senator Drake Urged for One of the Vacancies in the Supreme Bench.

Legal Tender Decision to be Rendered To-Day.

Advent of Georgia Politicians.

The Text of the New Chinese Treaty.

Special Despatch to The Chicago Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.

WITHDRAWING IRISH LAND GRABBING.

The President, in accordance with the recommendation of Secretary Cox, has sent a message to the Senate withdrawing all the Indian treaties now pending before that body, other than those which are of a character purely local, and which, at other presences as unnecessary, are to be withdrawn. Like the other retired colonial lords, they are perhaps not so happy in their new organization as in the old previous, but they will not look upon their retirement with any regret, and no changes in the land laws will engage their tenants, they candidly avow themselves excessively glad to get rid of their unnecessary encumbrances of limited individual capacity. It will be borne, however, in mind that the treaties withdrawn are those only which have been negotiated within two years. Any treaty which has been negotiated within that time, and which is still pending before the Senate, will not be withdrawn, but will be left to the action of that body. It is not known whether the President intends to withdraw any treaties negotiated prior to the last two years.

A number of Democratic Senators are threatening to break from their ranks on the Bankrupt bill, and a number of them will have to go to school to learn how they are to do that.

"Those gentlemen who do not care a straw for the Democratic party, A prosperous victory will be a degree to our laws."

"There is a hundred political questions, which, for years to come, will be revolved just about as soon as the Democratic party disputes between the Rocky Mountains and the Atlantic."

The Washington *Ledger* says that Clay, Chilton and Webster are behind the age. The *Ledger* must be the last person to say that.

A Senator carries his mark of courage in his face. He is either grizzly or afflicted in America some way like the American Indians, which indicates a constant fighting.

He injects altogether the theory of any minister's sentiments on slavery, and thinks that the whole of all evidences from history or practical intelligence, from the Bible and from the Constitution, from the past, and from north to south. The *conscience* exists in Boston west of a northern line, and the different countries of South America and Europe, from the Lorrimer Line.

The Examiner, some, he thinks, comes to an end, and the Constitution of the United States, and the Union, and the Constitution of the United States, and the Union, and the Constitution of the United States, and the Union, to Anaxt. Cabbet following the stream in his last speech he carried from Asia to America.

Mr. Morgan finds agreement between the senator from Ohio and the Senator from Ohio, and the Senator from Ohio, and the Senator from Ohio,

The Tribune.

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1870.

THE SUGAR DUTIES.

The full text of General Schenck's Tariff bill shows the following rates of duties proposed to be levied on sugar, as compared with those of the existing tariff:

Existing rates.	Proposed rates.
Not above No. 13 Dutch standard	6 cents per lb	8 cents per lb
Above No. 13 and not above No. 16	7½ cents per lb	9 cents per lb
Above No. 16 and not above No. 20	8½ cents per lb	10 cents per lb
Above No. 20	9 cents per lb	12 cents per lb
Above No. 20 (refined)	4 cents per lb	4 cents per lb
Above No. 20 (refined, colored)	6 cents per lb	8 cents per lb

The classification of the various kinds of sugars has been changed. The precise language of the proposed bill is as follows:

"On all raw or Muscovado sugar, 8 cents per pound; on clayed sugar, 4 cents per pound; on refined, store dried, or loaf, 4 cents per pound; on drips of granulated sugar, 3 cents per pound. Provided, That all sugar above No. 20 Dutch standard, which has in the process of manufacture been subjected in drying to a heat above 150 degrees of Fahrenheit, or being boiled or crystallized in a vacuum pan, or centrifugal, or turned in a mortar, or centrifugal machines, or by vacuum process, or dirived from any other source than the juice of the sugar cane, shall be regarded as refined sugar."

The classification and rates of duty on Sugar in Great Britain are as follows:

	Per cwt.
Refined	19s
Not equal to refined, first class	14s 9d
Not equal to refined, second class	10s 6d
Not equal to the last	9s 7d

Which is about equal to three cents per pound for refined; two and three-quarters cents for the first class; two and one-half cents for the second class; and two and one-quarter cents for the third class. An excise or internal tax of the same amount is imposed upon sugars refined or produced in the United Kingdom.

The amount and kinds of sugars imported into the United States during the years 1866 and 1867, were as follows:

	1866. lbs.	1867. lbs.
Not above No. 13 Dutch standard	319,994,043	774,790,585
Above No. 13 and not above No. 16	137,393,993	69,615,373
Above No. 16 and not above No. 20	16,366,629	1,720,760
Above No. 20	4,431,291	186,111

The average consumption of cane sugar produced in the United States is estimated at 350,000,000 pounds, or about one-fourth of the total consumption. The amount of revenue derived by the government from imported sugar is about $38,000,000 (gold) per annum, being by far the largest sum derived from any article on the list of imports, and larger than that obtained from tea, coffee, and silks combined. The importation of any measure which proposes to change the duties on sugar is, therefore, easily perceived.

It has happened that nearly all the measures passed since the close of the war to repeal or reduce taxes have operated merely to transfer a portion of the revenues of the government to the particular classes who had previously paid the tax, and have brought very little relief to the mass of the people. When the tax on manufactures was first imposed, it furnished an excuse for adding to the tariff, but when the internal tax was repealed, the tariff remained unchanged; so that the people continued to pay about the same prices as before on all "protected" articles. The schedule of duties now proposed to be levied on sugar is plainly an attempt to transfer a large share of the revenues hitherto obtained by the government from that article to the pockets of the sugar-refiners, under a pretence of reducing taxes. For, be it observed, six-sevenths of all the sugar imported is of the kind denominated "not above No. 13 Dutch standard," the raw, dirty, black product of the plantation mill, which no civilized being can use until it has been put through some sort of refining process. The existing duty on this article is three cents per pound. To reduce it to two cents, without a corresponding reduction on all the higher grades, is to make a present to the refiners of the difference, amounting to about eight millions of dollars per year. This would be rather too barefaced an operation. So the device has been resorted to of changing the classification. The article known as "above No. 12 but not above No. 15," is used to some extent by the poorer classes without further refining; but it is not, to any considerable extent, brought into competition to some extent with the product of the sugar refineries. Instead of reducing this quality one cent per pound to correspond with the reduction on raw sugar, it is reduced only one-half cent. Then the two higher classes, which now pay taxed four and five cents respectively, are thrown into one class and taxed at four cents. The quality known as "above No. 15 but not above No. 20" constitutes the grade of the ordinary merchantable "coffee sugar," and is the chief article of consumption in the United States. The duty on this quality is not reduced at all. It is upon this grade that the large profits will be made by the refiners if the bill passes. It is absurd to pretend that such a measure will reduce taxes. It will only transfer money from the public Treasury to the private treasuries of a few individuals and corporations.

The country pays over $10,000,000 per annum as "protection" to the Louisiana sugar planters. The proposed reduction of duty on raw sugar will diminish this bounty about $6,500,000 and bestow twice that amount on the sugar refineries. The net loss to the Treasury, if the bill passes, will be $11,000,000 gold per annum.

THE FOUR PER CENT THEORY.

Mr. Greeley is gradually being penetrated by the difficulty of getting the public creditors to lend at five per cent, when they can get 6%, but he drives into the problem with all the faith and sagacity of the colored brother who vowed that "de Lord tole me to jump straight froo de stone fence I'd jump right at it any way." Some perversities in the facts, however, are still necessary to sustain the "4 per cent delusion." Mr. G. says:

"We borrowed millions at 6 per cent when now quite as large sums can be had at 5, on the credit of which our national existence was staked; why should we not borrow at 4 per cent now? At that rate, now that we have peace based on unquestioned victory? We scarcely expected that when we made the loan of our debt redeemable at our own pleasure after five years, within twenty years; was there then a shadow of doubt of our hopes?"

We doubt if the country has borrowed a single dollar at 6 per cent since January 1, 1861, prior to which time it was not yet known that we were just entering a great civil war. A loan of $10,000,000, offered by Howell Cobb, in December, 1860, for the lowest rate of interest it could be had for, brought no bids less than 12 per cent. On January 15, 1860, John A. Dix, Secretary of the Treasury, borrowed $5,000,000 at rates varying from 6½ to 11 per cent, but averaging 10¼ per cent. On February 8, 1861, the same Secretary offered $8,000,000 of a nominally 6 per cent bond, which was taken at from 90¼ to 96 per cent, which ranged the interest at about 6¾ per cent. On April 2, just before the bombardment of Sumter, and when it was still unknown that we were to have war, Secretary Chase attempted to borrow $8,000,000 on 6 per cents, selling them at 94; he got bids to the extent of $2,000,000 only. With great difficulty he borrowed $5,000,000 on 6 per cent Treasury notes, *which were receivable for customs duties*, at par. At that time the twenty year 6 per cents, which indicated the actual credit of the government, were down to 88, which made the actual borrowing rate for the government 7 1-5 per cent, except on an obligation which not only bore interest but was payable for customs duties. On May 25 $9,000,000 more were borrowed by the sale of 6 per cents at 83 to 86 (7 1-5 to 6¾ per cent). The loan passed in July authorized 6 per cent stocks to be sold at such a discount as would make them equivalent to 7 per cents, viz., 93½. From July to December, 1861, Secretary Chase borrowed on the 7.3-10 sheet notes and the sale of 6 per cent bonds at a rate which made them equal to 7 per cents. With the 1st January, 1862, specie payments were suspended, and the loans made afterward were made in depreciated currency, the rate of interest varying greatly with the degree of depreciation. When gold rose to 200, the 6 per cents, passing out for par in currency, 6 c., for fifty cents on the dollar, were really negotiated at a little more than 12 per cent interest. A 12 per cent bond would have been cheaper, because involving the payment of only half as much principal as the 6 per cent, for a like sum borrowed.

We see, therefore, that instead of borrowing millions at 6 per cent, on the eve of or during the war, we never borrowed a dime at that rate of interest, and that the average rates were from 7½ to 12 per cent.

Mr. Greeley shows that our doctrines have had some effect on him, in the following statement:

"Of course, those who are entitled to 4 per cents hereafter will not volunteer to take less, and we are indeed not committed against all forms of renunciation. But the rate of our great national debt consists of the five-twenties, which we have taken at unquestioned right to redeem in coin, and which the holders will inevitably exchange *for any bond worth a fraction more than one.*"

One would suppose that, when Mr. Greeley had discovered that holders of the 6 per cents are entitled to coin for their face before they need surrender them, and that they will not take the 4 per cents at par until they are worth a fraction more than coin, he would infer that, as 4 per cents are not yet worth coin, 4 per cents cannot very well sell for a fraction more than coin.

In this dilemma, he recommends a number of plans for making a 4 per cent bond sell at a higher rate than a 6 per cent, among which is the following:

"4. Require that all moneys held by guardians, executors, administrators, and other trustees or custodians of others' estates, shall be invested in the new consols, which shall be required for paying over to the rightful owners."

In other words, when nobody will lend his own money to the government at 4 per cent; when no adult men capable of managing their own affairs can be persuaded to do so, let us rifle the pockets of infants, widows, and lunatics, through a law directing their trustees to commit a waste of their miserable pittance, compelling them not only to loan it to the government, but to take 2 per cent less for their money than the government is able to borrow it for elsewhere. This may be brilliant financiering, and anybody who despises it may perhaps be charged with "striking at the national credit," but to us it appears to have certain elements of folly and meanness in it which would dishonor the country only less than repudiation itself.

LEATHER AND THE TARIFF.

The leather business of this country is the third in importance among existing branches of industry—agriculture standing first and railway service second. The leather business exceeds, in round numbers, that of iron about four-fifths, that of cotton about two-thirds, and of woollen rather more than that. In the prosperity of this industry every man, woman, and child in the land is directly interested as a consumer, and almost every man who works with his hands, or whose subsistence depends upon his daily labor, is interested as a producer. Leather is of constant and universal domestic use as a part of the instruments of production, in agriculture, in all the uses of domestic animals, in machinery of all sorts, leather plays a part more important than iron, while in the immense interest already engaged in the manufacture it is the principal material. Upon this raw material, in hides, there is an import duty of 10 *per centum*, in gold, which, when warehousing charges are added, reaches 15 to 18 *per centum*, as gold fluctuates from 20 to 35. The result is a serious enhancement of the price to the consumer of one of the principal necessaries of life, and a burden so onerous upon manufactures that it has almost wholly destroyed the large export trade that once existed. This is one of the practical consequences of the system of protection to American industry—so called. The boots and shoes on our feet and the feet of our children, the harness on our horses, the trunks we use, the leather belts of machinery, the harness and daily uses to which leather is put in domestic affairs and in the arts are burdened with a heavy tax and an enhanced price, while the laborer engaged in their manufacture has lost the foreign trade which once made his labor profitable.

However specious the argument may be in regard to other raw materials—species but always deceptive—that though a few may be injured the many are benefited, it has no application in the case of hides. The duty "protects" nobody, but is a pure, unmitigated, and unquestionable injury to everybody, both consumer and producer. The foreign hides from South America, which, from natural causes,—the character of the country and the character of the industry of the people,—reach Lake Michigan in the same product can be produced in this country, do not and cannot come in conflict with the hides of our domestic cattle as articles of manufacture. Each is wanted for a different purpose, and they do not come in conflict with each other, but are both needed as a supplement to the other. Their textures differs, and each has its own peculiarity. That of South American hides is of a short, fine fibre, but wants pliability and toughness. That of the hides of our own country is of a long fibre, both tough and pliable. Of this is made the uppers of shoes and boots, harness, and belting leather. Of that is manufactured hemlock sole leather; and from the cheapness of barks and other tanning materials in this country we have a natural advantage in that branch of manufacture over all the rest of the world. Mr. Allen, of Milwaukee, one of the largest and most intelligent manufacturers in the United States, estimates that from 97 to 98 *per centum* of hemlock sole leather is made from the imported hides to 2 to 3 *per centum* from domestic hides. On all the sole leather of the country then we pay from 15 to 18 *per centum* of tax on all that is consumed, and add that much to the cost of all that is produced, to the loss of profits solely of the foreign producer with whom our manufacturers have to compete. The man who wears or uses leather in any form is compelled to pay more for what he uses than he would if there was free trade in hides; the man who manufactures hides is compelled, for want of that free trade, to give up competition with the foreign manufacturer. Nobody is protected, and the country loses the revenue which would accrue from a moderate tax that would allow of an importation of hides at a price that would enable domestic manufacturers to compete with foreign manufacturers.

Under such a state of facts and of figures, which there is hardly a presence of galvanizing or disputing, the leather interest ask for a revision of the tariff, as it is manifestly for the advantage of both producer and consumer that it should be revised, and for the benefit of nobody but the foreign competing manufacturer that it should be left as it is.

Now, we do not pretend that this is an isolated instance of the absurdity of a protective tariff, but it happens to be an exceedingly plain one, which he who runs may read. If the principles of protection are true they are true in all cases, and we should no more make an exception in the case of hides than in the case of wool, or in the case of coal, or in the case of iron, or of any other production. If a prohibitory or a simply onerous tax upon the production of a country has the effect to destroy the natural advantages of soil or climate or habits of the people, can be produced cheaper than with us, unnecessary that we may compel industry to take that direction, then such tax is just as wise as regards one production as regards another. And the case of hides is, on the other hand, is no less true. If it is unwise to levy a heavy duty on hides because it is a serious burden upon consumers and because it cripples or ruins the industry depending on that raw material, then it is equally true that the like disastrous results must follow in any other case where there is the similar interference with the natural law of supply and demand. The laws of political economy are universal and not exceptional, are certain in their operations, and from like causes always produce like results. But as it is easier to reason from results, to come than from causes to results, or the plain story of the mischief produced by a high tariff on hides, while, let us hope, it will work its own cure, may also help to open the eyes of the people to the utter fallacy that lies at the root of the whole doctrine of protection.

General Ames predicts that Mississippi will remain "one of the most loyal States in the Union for about five years, as its offices will continue in loyal hands for that length of time." Such a prediction from one who is himself a Senator-elect "for one or five years," is really very unique. Does General Ames suppose his powers of political prediction are good for five years? Or would he have us believe that the Legislature under Republican control for five years the fires of disloyalty would be not only kept brightly burning, but would at the end of that time get the secondary? Such a theory would not be creditable to the character of the government which had overlaid in its swaddling clothes Mississippi has a clear majority of colored voters. They are not likely to fall down and worship any political leaders who oppress their equal civil and political rights. Very likely the former ruling classes of the State will return more or less into offices of trust and power. But can they do so on a basis of disloyalty by the votes of a population nearly two-thirds of whom are colored? If so, it is not complimentary to the colored vote. And if they come into power on a basis of loyalty and equal rights accepting the situation, is not that what we all want? General Ames' remark indicates that he is one of the class who would like to maintain a chronic Ireland at the South by erecting perpetual Provisional Governments there on the basis of a small fraction of the voters. On such a plan politically as the South would live not only five years but fifty.

THE RAILROAD QUESTION.

In 1869 the Legislature of Massachusetts, impressed with the growing need of an intelligent examination of the various railroad and transportation companies of that State, had the wisdom to create a Board of Railroad Commissioners, with power to make personal examination into all the affairs of all those companies; to require them to furnish all information necessary to disclose the actual working of the system, and of each road, and the bearing and effect of their mode of business upon the general welfare of the State. The Commissioners, after thus informing themselves, were to make report to the Legislature advising what legislation was required to meet existing evils and abuses on the one hand, or to extend needed facilities on the other. This commission has just made its first report. Part of its functions was to hear complaints from cities, towns, counties, and individuals against the railroads, including, among other things, unreasonable rates of freight and fares. Numerous cases have been thus heard, and the Commissioners congratulate the State upon the fact that, in nearly every instance, in which Alfred Smith and Joseph Dobson, brothers-in-law, shot each other. It was between these two that the troubles had taken place in the early years.

Under the lock in Jasper County, last week, some worsmen found and filled six casks, of all the varieties known in that part of the country. The casks were then sealed up and left. In after occurred, in which Alfred Smith and Joseph Dobson, brothers-in-law, shot each other. It was between these two that the troubles had taken place in the early years.

A writer in the *Independent*, speaking of a Massachusetts town-house of twenty years ago, says: "It is in this book that you may find the original poems of Wm. Henry Hulburt—now one of the editors of the *World*, but then a journeyman printer at Chatteroy, or a young lawyer just from the paternal instruction of Dr. Francis. He left his friends for the West, and the poems of that early young years alone, and you know more about him than we do."

Prof. Agassiz is so unwell that he is not able to prepare his correspondence even. A recent letter from his wife says that he has been, and still is, seriously ill, having had several consecutive days of delirious consequence, and the physician assures him, of nervous prostration and overwork, from which he will not recover for some time, unless he is, therefore, forbidden to work for a long time, and will be obliged to give up all public lectures.

The Archduchess Elizabeth, of Austria, who, according to the cable, has fled to America, having embarked at Hamburg, is reported to be the eldest daughter of Francis Joseph I, but is, although six months younger, the cousin of his father. The Archduchess Elizabeth was born in the early supposed to be affected by it, the daughter, by third marriage, of the Archduke Joseph Anthony and Princess Augusta Maria Josepha, daughter of the Emperor Leopold II. She was born January 17, 1830, and was first married October 4, 1847, to the Archduke Ferdinand Maximilian, King of Modena, and was again married April 18, 1856, to her cousin, Archduke Charles Ferdinand. By the latter marriage she has three children, two sons and a daughter. The Archduchess Elizabeth is reported to live happily with her husband, and is to be in disgrace at the Austrian court. Indeed, it is asserted, to appear at the Imperial levees.

Trout-Fishing in the Yosemite Valley.

The interesting and, as a naturalist, valuable article of Judge Caton, published in THE TRIBUNE of Monday, on "Trout-Fishing in the Yosemite Valley," encourages me to add my mite to the stock of "Salmo Irideus," for the benefit of future visitors to that wonderful region. As a preliminary I mention that while in Colorado on my way to California, as one of the "Centennial party" of 1869, I sometimes amused myself by catching trout in the mountain streams which we were riding. I also confessed my fondness for piscatory sports. Whereupon the gentlemanly naturalists in a stage-coach knows that every opportunity for a "drive" (joke) at a fellow-passenger is not to be neglected. Hence, when we were riding along Bitter Creek, crossing a stagnant slough or wallowing through a bog hole, they would point out to me trout, or trout-like fish, with the assurance that there was trout in that stream, and dolefully sympathize with me in the fear of the scarcity of fish in the country. I, of course, "let on" that I believed them, and, on the contrary, I was accordant the honor of being the free white man that ever caught a trout in the Colorado Valley. I regarded this, however, as merely an attempt at flattery, for I have no doubt that what the Indian can do, the white man can. I have seen enough of their large vagabonds to have all the nonsense of Cooper's Aorsa completely spooned out of me.

In order to test the quality of the fish, I had him cooked as much as possible for breakfast. I found his flesh firm, comparatively delicate, and in all respects similar to that of the trout of the mountain streams, contributed no little to the zest of a passenger appetite, contributed no little to the zest of a passenger appetite, contributed no little to the zest of a passenger appetite

PARIS.

Murder of Victor Noir—The True Account.

The Emperor's Troubles with His Family.

Prosecution of Rochefort—The New Ministry—The Council.

Conspiracy in Russia.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

PARIS, JANUARY 17.

THE IMPERIAL FAMILY.

About twenty years ago the President of the then republic, Louis Napoleon, was in some momentary peril of assassination. His uncle and cousin, King Jerome, whom he exiled by a decree, had only escaped by the first Napoleon, and, as his son, the Prince Napoleon of to-day, were running over France, doing their best to ruin their relatives and put themselves in his place. Other relatives, male and female, and among them the Princess Clotilde, were also on the visiting list. The elevation of their head to the Presidency had not their assent or aid, and they made up for thirty years of exile by all sorts of escapades.

One day, after some very unfortunate outbreak, the President felt it necessary to show severity, or at least make reproaches. He returned to the Elysee greatly irritated and almost incoherent. Seeing that his cousin was in the waiting room over the way which he had and with his uncle, I believe. There taking up a paper to escape his reproaches, he read: "Any insult to Jerome, David or Napoleon, and parched a little, and pointed to the style, and which have again become the fashion, in which, among other results, we are reproached with not being born of his father. Louis, and with not having anything in common with the Napoleons. It was a collection of pointless anecdotes.

Not stopping to read further, he threw down the paper and ran to the Prince Napoleon of to-day, who was

RUFFIANISM.

Frightful Doings of a Gang of Villians in the West Division.

An Old Man's Throat Cut for Six Dollars.

Rowdyism on a Street Car, Etc.

Throat Cutting.

Ruffianism, in its various forms of murder, burglary, high-way robbery, and street assaults, still holds its sway over our terrified, and almost subdued fellow-citizens. The reign of violence continues, and the terrible result seem to be gaining new willingness every day, to stimulate them to new and more audacious exploits. One week ago the excitement began on the North Side and was thrown into a state of terror, and for some days the excitement began to subside in what quarter it was thought it would break out in some other direction. This week, however, the scene has been changed to the West Division, and the excitement is again at its height. Each day and night has developed some new outrage, and no sooner has the excitement begun